New rail line projects in Gujarat

2569. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether survey with regard to construction of 10 new railway lines in Gujarat has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof including budgetary support for the anticipated cost; and

(c) the present status of the said new railway lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) In the last three years, surveys for following new lines in Gujarat have been completed:

(i) Bhavnagar-Mahuva (118 km)

(ii) Harij-Mahesana-Radhanpur (108 km)

(iii) Porbandar-Porbandar Port (5 km)

(iv) Ningala-Gadhad-Babra-Khijadiya (68 km)

(v) Mahesana-Taranga Hill (Gauge Conversion) with extension up to Ambaji (New Line) (108 km)

(vi) Modasa-Shamlaji (23 km)

(vii) Bhavnagar-Tarapur (135 km).

Out of the above, proposal of Modasa-Shamlaji has been sanctioned as part of Ahmedabad-Himmatnagar-Udaiprur gauge conversion project at an anticipated cost of Rs. 55.97crore.

New policy for container train operators

2570. MS. MABEL REBELLO:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry is considering a policy to allow container train operators to use private sidings to load traffic;

(b) whether at present such operators are not allowed to load traffic from private sidings;

(c) whether her Ministry is considering a proposal under which box train operators may be allowed to pick up such commodities as cement, foodgrains, chemicals and fertilizers and iron and steel;

(d) if so, to what extent this decision has helped;

(e) whether she had announced in budget for framing such a policy; and

(f) if so, whether present policy has been helpful to operators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.